

Request for Qualifications



UNL Mabel Lee Hall



Submission Deadline: December 4, 2020

Total Budget (for three projects): \$330,300

Project Description

The original Mable Lee Hall (MLH) was built in 1971 to house the Department of Physical Education for Women, and has been a hub for many other college activities since then. This new MLH replacement building will house College of Education and Human Sciences (CEHS), which is dedicated to enhancing the lives of individuals, families, schools, and communities and to strengthening the relationships among them. To achieve this mission, CEHS provides state-of-the art education programs for students, conducts research, carries out creative work, and applies knowledge through outreach. CEHS is one of the 4 largest colleges on the UNL campus, serving both undergraduate and graduate students, as well as conducting outreach/extension in all 93 Nebraska counties. This building will house the Dean's Office, the CEHS Business Center, the Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families and School (CYFS), the Department of Child, Youth and Family Studies (CYAF), the Department Teaching, Learning and Teacher Education (TLTE), and a portion of the Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences (NHS).

Site and Artwork Overview

There are three sites available with this project, each with its own budget and requirements. The renderings and details of site opportunities are below. The committee will grant preference for the artistic quality, cohesion and adherence to the committee's vision. Artists can submit to be considered for one site or up to three sites, please indicate which site(s) the committee should consider in the artists statement. All artwork should be suited for permanent placement and low maintenance care.

The overarching goal for the art in this building is to "Make Learning Visible," a unifying concept - figural and practical - for the various art sites throughout the building. The students and faculty of all ages should be able to interact with and make discoveries about the artwork. The artwork should be inspiring, innovative and accessible, as the CEHS endeavors to create new approaches to learning, generate new knowledge and research and develop new methods of working with youth, families, schools, and communities.

"Make Learning Visible" is achieved in the architecture so far with ample glass walls for transparency and natural light, open spaces for to engage in active learning and collaborations, and beautiful exterior landscaping for opportunities for natural discoveries. The committee also envisions the building's art potential to create a "sense of place" for the CEHS people in order to build a stronger College community.



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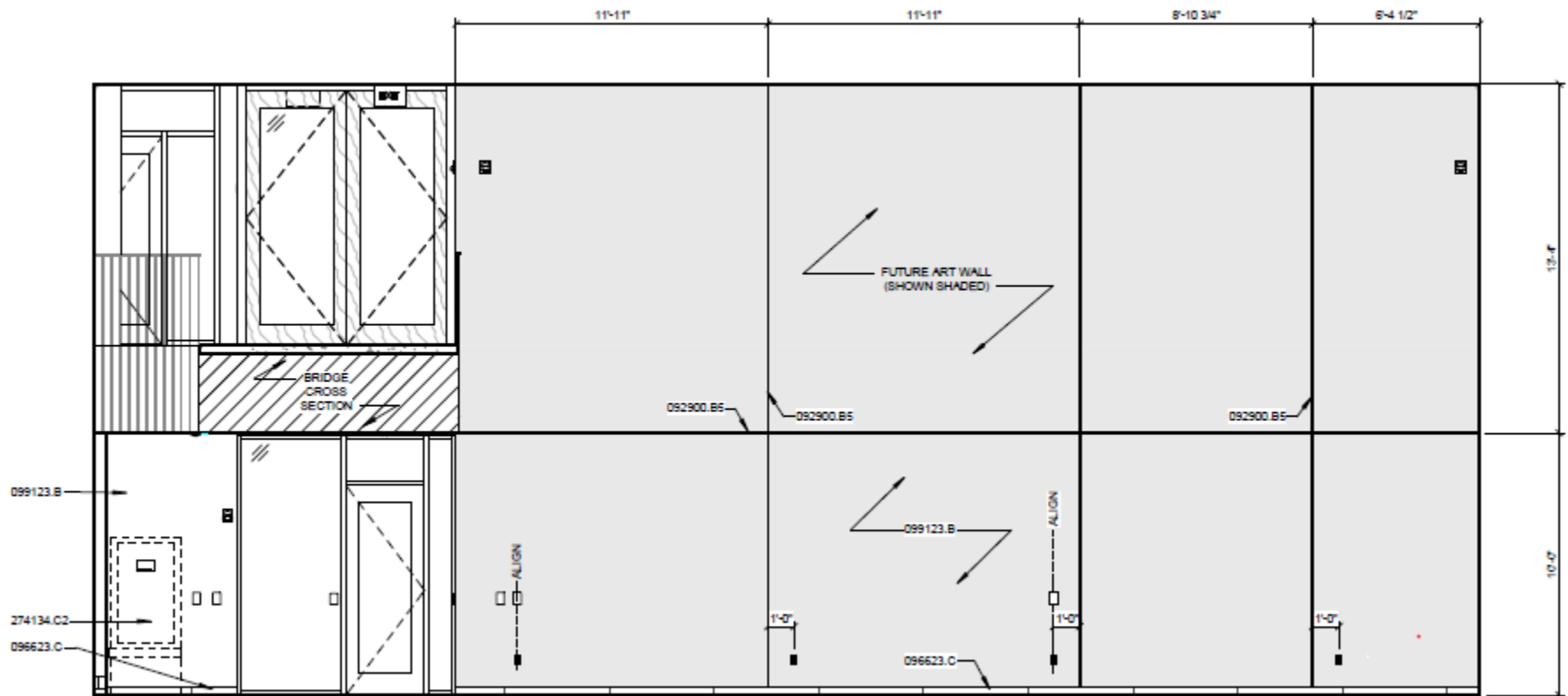
Site 1 | Exterior site **\$100,150**

This exterior site is located at the east and main entrance of the building and near a major thoroughfare of campus life. This site is adjacent to the Living Room, which is another designated art site. The committee can envision a sculpture, experiential, or interactive artwork here. There are several options within this space for artwork, whether it is one piece or several pieces that make up a whole experience. The committee would also consider treatment or engraving on the concrete, earthwork, or sculptural seating if the artist is appropriately collaborative with the architects and committee members.



Site 2 | Living Room \$129,800

The Living Room is a large lounge area for studying, communal learning, and connecting with others. The site for artwork is along the north wall, which is approximately 29 feet tall and 39' across. There is the possibility that a wall artwork could extend as a hanging piece from the ceiling. The Living Room has plenty of natural light with two walls made primarily of windows. The committee would like to see something that reinforces interactivity, and are especially inspired by light, shadows, reflections, and the idea of "intergenerational play."



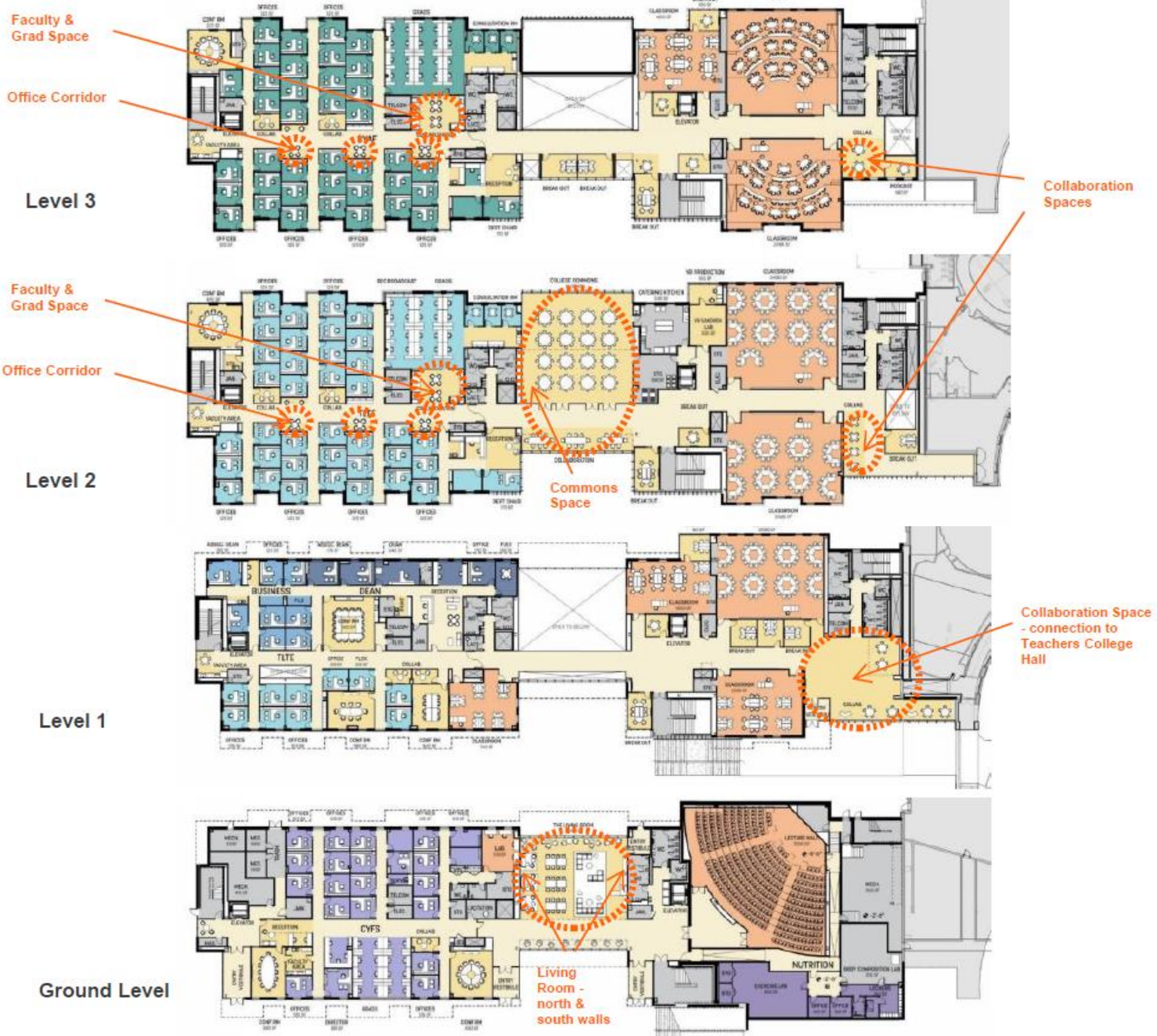
Continued: Site 2, Living Room wall elevation

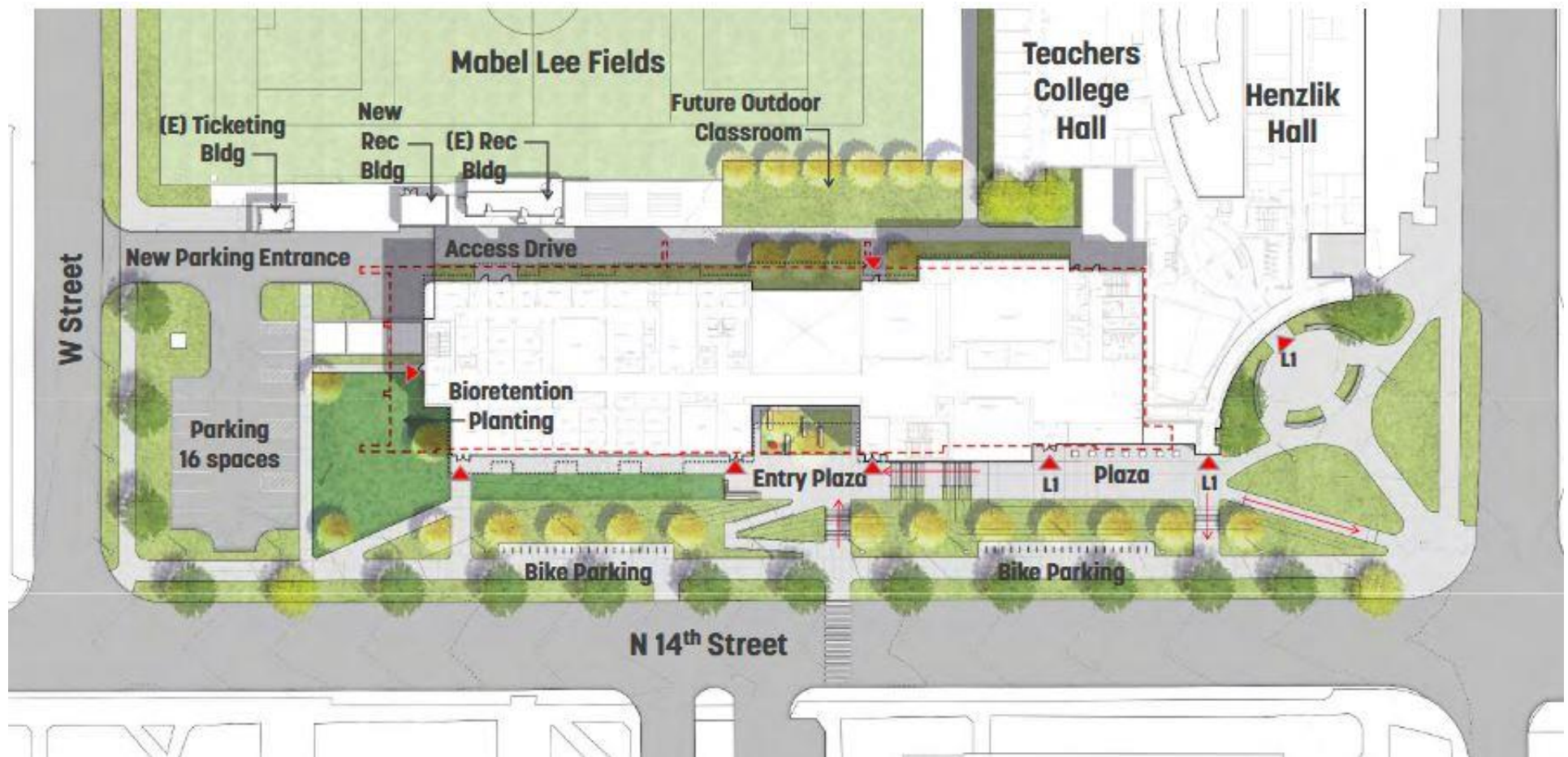


Site 3 | Hallway Study Seating Niches, \$100,150

Artists for this site should be able to provide a cohesive proposal that incorporates art into the seating areas. The goal is that students and faculty will feel welcome to linger before and after class to continue discussions, study, or lounge, in an effort the building to be an accessible, inviting, and altogether a more comfortable place to be. Throughout the building's four floors, there are approximately 10 outcroppings from the hallway, they very in size. They will be outfitted with sofas and tables, so artwork should be above sitting height and either closely and securely fixed to the wall or directly on the wall itself.

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Aerial view of Mabel Lee Hall replacement building.

Selection Process

The UNL Mabel Lee Hall Public Art Selection Committee, in consultation with the Nebraska Arts Council, has full oversight for the selection of an artist for this project.

Professional public artists or artist teams throughout the United States are eligible. The committee reviews RFQ submissions on SlideRoom. Two to four finalists for each site will present proposals on zoom, and will receive proposal honorarium. For presentations, proposals include concept, design, and budget.

Timeline *subject to change.

RFQ open: Sept. 28, 2020

Submission deadline: Dec. 4, 2020

Finalists notified: Dec. 18, 2020

Selected artist notified: February 2021

Artwork installed: Feb. 2022

Selection Criteria

- Statement of personal connection to project
- Evident ability to provide clear conceptual approach
- Evident ability to complete quality projects

Budget

A maximum of **\$330,300.00** is available for all the project sites, total amount for each site indicated above for the selected artist or artists' team (All travel and lodging, equipment rental, supplies and fabrication for the final design and commission will be responsibility of the artist/artists team).

Application Requirements

Submit materials on SlideRoom, the online review system used in this process, via this portal: nebraska.slideroom.com

Technical assistance: slideroom.com/support.html

Visual Support Materials

Image descriptions: Include date, budget, dimensions, medium with each corresponding image on SlideRoom.

Images: Ten digital images of relevant completed artwork.

Upload images as jpg files, <1220px @ 72dpi.

Video: Optional video demonstrates moving parts, time-based work, functionality. Upload mov, wmv, flv files, < 5 min. each.

Required Materials

CV/Resume: Limit to three pages.

Three Professional References: Complete contact information for references with a deep knowledge of your artwork and work methods. Ex: Commissioning organization, architect, etc.

Statement of Interest: Describe how your personal style or past projects relate to this project. Describe briefly your interest and concept for this project. Use 5000 words or less.

Application Fee: \$10 to Slideroom's secure payment system.

Contact

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